

From: Greta Lacin
To: <info5@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: 10/7/2010 9:22 PM
Subject: Sacramento Regional county sanitation district public comment

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing both as a resident and commercial property owner in Sacramento. As a board member of the River District, I was briefed on the proposed methods and costs of filtering out ammonia and disease organisms from our sewage before discharge. The presenter, Claudia Goss, gave the cost breakdowns of 4 proposed methods of filtering/treating water. She emphasized the steep costs of the technology, but admitted that their plant emits the greatest discharges of ammonia into the Sacramento River, even when agriculture is included.

It is my opinion that while using microfilters to trap pathogens and ultraviolet light to kill them may have to wait for now due to the high costs, treating the water for ammonia may be necessary now. In contrast to the claims of the water district, I believe that there is sound scientific evidence that the ammonia is harming the ecology of the river systems. Other treatments, I believe, can wait until the economy is on a sounder footing.

I also believe that the water district could help their clients reduce their water bills by emphasizing conservation, including tracing leaks, and by training plant nursery personnel to recommend less toxic resolutions to common lawn and garden problems, the majority of which have been proven by UC cooperative extension research to be due to overwatering (no chemicals required).

Sincerely,
Greta Lacin